

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 547

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of George Edward Buxton York of Pall Mall.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of George Edward Buxton York; and

WHEREAS, George Edward York was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the son of Gracie Loretta Williams York and World War I hero Sergeant Alvin C. York, Mr. York was a graduate of the Alvin C. York Institute and served in the United States Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, George Edward York served with acumen and alacrity at the Tennessee Department of Human Services as a caseworker for abused and neglected children, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, an ordained minister in the Nazarene church, George Edward York pastored Fatherland Street Church of the Nazarene in Nashville from 1957 to 1976; and

WHEREAS, George Edward York stood his ground to save the original building of the historical Alvin C. York Institute, speaking before a committee at the Capitol about his father's life, passion, and greatness to the state; he gave an accurate account of the history of the school, and through his words, he convinced the committee to change course. The York Institute remained state-funded, and the historical building was maintained instead of torn down; and

WHEREAS, passionate about his father's dream of education in Fentress County, Mr. York eagerly attended educational, civic, and religious ceremonies and events to inspire people to believe in others and their ability to do great things; and

WHEREAS, a humble and unselfish man, George Edward York lived his life helping others, donating money to those in need, purchasing suits for visiting preachers, allowing visitors to stay in his home, and speaking to student organizations; he spoke to everyone with the same kindness and respect regardless of their financial or social status; and

WHEREAS, Mr. York was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, George Edward York was the loving father of Gerald E. York; the proud grandfather of Dr. Gerald Edward York II, Deborah York, and Michael York; and the treasured great-grandfather of Gracie Jane, Alexa Morgan, and Gage Cullum; and

WHEREAS, he is lovingly remembered by his brother, Andrew Jackson York; his sister, Betsy Ross York-Lowrey; and many special nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Mr. York was preceded in death by his parents, Gracie Loretta Williams York and World War I hero Sergeant Alvin C. York; his wife, Clara Marie Williams York; his brothers, Alvin C. York, Jr., Woodrow Wilson York, and Thomas Jefferson York; and his sister, Mary Alice Franklin; and

WHEREAS, George Edward York leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of George Edward Buxton York, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. York.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.